

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The following message was received from his Excellency, the Governor:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

AUSTIN, TEXAS, March 18, 1893.

To the House of Representatives, Twenty-third Legislature of Texas:

Herewith I beg to return to your honorable body, with my disapproval, House bill No. 582, it being an act to amend certain sections of the charter of the city of Dallas, received in the Executive office on the 8th day of this month.

Among other things, this act confers authority upon the city of Dallas to license disorderly houses; and it is on this ground that I base my objection. The Penal Code of Texas defines a disorderly house to be one kept for the purpose of public prostitution, or as a common resort for prostitutes or vagrants, or to which persons resort for the purpose of smoking or in any manner using opium.

The purpose of vesting the power in the city of Dallas to license such houses is to exempt them from prosecutions by the county officers for violations of the State law. Instead of granting any such authority to a city, it would comport more with public policy to make the mayor and chief of police and all other city and county officers subject to removal by proceedings in the district court when they permit gambling dens or disorderly houses to be run or maintained within their jurisdictions.

Respectfully,

J. S. HOGG,  
Governor of Texas.